

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon May 15 13:59:50 1995
From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.mmc.com
Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 9:59:50 -0400 (EDT)
Message-Id: <950515095950.2028c293@carib.vf.mmc.com>
Subject: RE: 30M

Jeff, you wrote:

> Hi Joe,
> Yes, 30 is pretty quiet out here - I didn't realize the crickets
> were up around 10.14 mc. Oh, that's a shame. It would have been
> a quick and dirty way to get a bunch of folks on 30.
>
> It'll be interesting to see if you can swing one of those xtals
> > 10 kc. I guess having everyone build a VXO isn't as bad as
> a VFO.

Jeff, I lashed together a simple VXO with one of the 10.140 MHz CB set rocks. It's a "crystal Colpitts" similar to the oscillator in simple rigs. The added feature is a variable cap and several chokes in series with the xtal. The variable cap by itself (150 pf max) gave a tuning range of 10.140 to 10.146 MHz. Adding a 10 and a 15 microhenry choke in series lowered the frequency and gave a total tuning range of 10.109 to 10.138 MHz for a total swing of 29 kHz. Stability was nearly as good as with just the crystal itself, and keying was excellent. This is jsut the result I was expecting!

More inductance than that made the oscillator "free run" with very poor stability.

Of course as they say, "your mileage may vary."

If you're interested, I can send more details. A fuller description will appear in QQ as a "Joes's Quickie" in Mike C's IX column.

Rubber those rocks!

72/73,

Joe E. N2CX

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon May 15 19:22:06 1995
Date: Mon, 15 May 95 14:22:06 -0500
From: bfinch@asp.vet.purdue.edu (Robert Finch)
Message-Id: <9505151922.AA02605@asp.vet.purdue.edu>
Subject: 610-v

i just got a 'letter' from the fcc saying forms
for the vanity call sign are not available until
july sumtime.....the letter was in response to my
using their 800 number to order up forms...
(u get to speak w/ an answering machine that in-
structs u to leave ur name, address, and etc.)
.....i now have a customer number!!!....and i
get to send in a form to get a form....and
all of this in response to a fone call....

isn't a large govmnt agency maze fun????
(hope tis doesn't start another ugly thread
like the one about weather in ohio)
.....baab, n6cxb.....
bfinch@asp.vet.purdue.edu

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon May 15 22:19:50 1995
Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 15:19:50 -0700 (PDT)
From: Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>
Subject: Re: 610-v
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.90.950515151855.19372A-100000@nimbus>

Oh no,

This is ok. The 800 number leads to a QRP phone bill... :-)

73, Ron, dah, dah (I'm three times slower than Chuck)

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....
.....ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Sun Valley, Nevada....
.....ARRL.....NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon May 15 23:05:36 1995
Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 16:05:36 -0700 (PDT)
From: patrick cook <kb0oxd@netcom.com>
Subject: Re: 610-v
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9505151617.A26458-0100000@netcom12>

Hi Robert:

On Mon, 15 May 1995, Robert Finch wrote:

> i just got a 'letter' from the fcc saying forms
> for the vanity call sign are not available until
> july sumtime.....

All other quoting deleted till here.

> (hope tis doesn't start another ugly thread
> like the one about weather in ohio)

Or like the BIG argument over "code vs. no-code", like there was on
Fidonet??? I quite agree. We can do without another argument like that.

73's for now, my friend!

DE KB00XD

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon May 15 14:46:45 1995
Date: Mon, 15 May 95 09:46:45 CDT
From: msdooley@collie.aud.alcatel.com (Michael S. Dooley)
Message-Id: <9505151446.AA22522@collie.aud.alcatel.com>
Subject: Re: 902 Mhz. Exciter/Receiver boards

Bernie,

I'd suggest an older Radio Shack cellular phone. One of the car installed
or bag phones. The reason is that you can get complete service manuals
from Radio Shack for them and parts, if needed. AND they can be put on 902
fairly easily since they're already in the vicinity B-)...
mike KE4PC

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon May 15 13:06:57 1995
Date: Mon, 15 May 95 09:06:57 EDT
From: mitchell@dtcs70.dtc.kodak.com (Brad Mitchel)
Message-Id: <9505151306.AA03813@dtcs70.dtc.kodak.com>
Subject: Argosy-525 analog vs digital

I recently picked up an Argosy 525 with ALL the filters.... wow.
Anyway, I have the analog version, but the front panel was replaced with
the digital panel because that was the only one available at the time.
Anyway, the only difference appears to be the analog front panel uses the
marker button for display turn on/off? on the digital version, and the analog
version has a dial where the digital display would normally be.
My question is, if it's that simple might I find the board for the digital
display and simply change things over? I'll bet I could..
, but then what about birdies??

tweet tweet..
Brad WB8YGG

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon May 15 02:17:57 1995
From: rarland@epix.net
Date: Sun, 14 May 1995 22:17:57 -0400 (EDT)
Subject: Re: Artificial ground?
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950514221630.19590A-1000000@peach.epix.net>

On Sat, 13 May 1995, John Seboldt wrote:

> Somebody mentioned the MFJ tuner with a built-in "artificial ground" tuner,
> and I've seen their little free-standing item, too.
>
> I'm guessing this is just an L network with an RF current indicator.
> Anybody confirm my guess?
>

Yep, that is what it is. I use one cuz my shack is on the 3rd floor and I need to tune the ground system to keep RF down to a liveable level inside the shack. The unit works and is worth the money, IF you have an extremely long ground wire run.

72 rich K7YHA

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon May 15 18:14:33 1995
Message-Id: <n1411582351.85117@msmailgw1.arlut.utexas.edu>
Date: 15 May 1995 12:14:33 -0600
From: "rohre" <rohre@arlut.utexas.edu>
Subject: Capacitors for Tuners, reed relays

The maximum capacitance for the variables in the Z match tuner have been published as anything from 250 pf to the 500 pf per section recently quoted. You hopefully never need to operate all the way at the maximum of anything.

It is feasible to extend a variables range for QRP or even 100 watt use with shunting mica caps; and for higher power levels suitable high voltage and current ceramic capacitors, or vacuum fixed caps. You could then use whatever maximum range variable you find in the junk box that will deal with the voltages encountered.

Some reed relays come in clear glass tubes and if evacuated, would sustain more voltage than the distance across a the same air gap. Thus, viewing the gap of

the blades will allow estimation of the breakdown of the reed if unknown. The published specs of industrially available reeds are suited for high power antenna use. The auto tuners of Japanese rice boxes and back stay HF tuners for marine/mobile radios use them.

It should not be a major leap for someone to homebrew a reed relay switched antenna transmatch. Or one could do a manual one with various combinations of switched caps, if you had a roller inductor for the continuous coverage of LC products. Considering the objective is to get the match within the range of the rig, even if you used switched caps and inductor, you could get close enough to 1.5:1 for most purposes. Ceramic rotary switches of common Centralab wafers are 11 positions. More intricate switches of more positions sometimes appear in surplus.

One source of multi position switches would be the Daven switches used for AM radio mixing boards before the advent of the linear slide pots. These had coin silver contacts and phenolic wafers, and seem quite rugged. With many Broadcast stations modernizing to go to transistor mixers, old tube boards should be available in surplus if we knew where to look to get these rotary switches.

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon May 15 21:39:49 1995
Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 17:39:49 -0400
From: teda@meaddata.com (Ted Albert)
Message-Id: <9505152139.AA13012@rain.meaddata.com>
Subject: Colorburst Freq still active

I found a lone sole calling CQ QRP last night (Sunday) at 00:30 local on 3.579. It took us 30 minutes to exchange callsigns and another 15 to do the rst, state and name exchange, but when it was over, I worked KB9JCG in Aurora, IL running 4 watts. I was running the same with the Argonaut II. The QRN was pretty bad and so were the fades on his signal.

Keep tuning around the colorburst frequency and good luck to all the folks trying this week with their pixie 2 transmitters. I should have mine finished this week and will join the group.

72 de Ted, KF8EE

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon May 15 22:27:23 1995
From: adam@philadelphia.libertynet.org (Adam O'Donnell)
Message-Id: <9505152227.AA06593@philadelphia.libertynet.org>
Subject: Designing OUR OWN rig!
Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 18:27:23 -0400 (EDT)

How many people would be up to designing the QRP-L lists own
kit? I think that we could design one hell of a XCVR!
What do you think? (It has to be something without a NE602! :-)

72, 73

--
Adam O'Donnell, N3RCS
Internet: adam@libertynet.org

My parents tell me that I just take up time and space. It's true -
I'm into relativity theory.

-----BEGIN PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----
Version: 2.6.2

mQCNAy9yMS8AAAEAL6X3T00KvDKreSRKPcrBC2gV0ROu8BKtzPpgkNuXxPXUxAU
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ufri+jd1MisF2FM+lz7UC/mwtuM9RFV/7qEfAIWFSwXhXh4LZdBHL5v9R1fpAAUR
tCRBZGFtIE8nRG9ubmVsbCA8YWRhbUBsaWJlcnR5bmV0Lm9yZz4=
=J0fv
-----END PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue May 16 01:40:57 1995
From: rohrwerk@netcom.com (John Seboldt)
Message-Id: <199505160140.SAA27130@netcom18.netcom.com>
Subject: Re: Designing OUR OWN rig!
Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 18:40:57 -0700 (PDT)

> How many people would be up to designing the QRP-L lists own
> kit? I think that we could design one hell of a XCVR!
> What do you think? (It has to be something without a NE602! :-)
>
> Adam O'Donnell, N3RCS
> Internet: adam@libertynet.org

Well, not exactly a kit, but there was sort of an "Internet Rig" modular
design in progress based on the Campbell R2/T2. Don't know what exact state
this is in, though Ray Anderson came up with a digital quadrature generator
(RF), and others were supposed to be working on various blocks. Any precise
status reports, folks?

: John Seboldt rohrwerk@netcom.com / CW: It don't mean a thing
: Amateur radio K0JD... / if it ain't got that swing!
: Church of the Annunciation, / Di dah, di dah, di dah, di dah..

: Minneapolis / (sorry, Duke!)

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Tue May 16 00:11:27 1995
From: n6xi@tss.com
Message-Id: <9505160009.AA26404@tekbspa.tss.com>
Subject: For Sale: NorCal 40, A&A 20m
Date: Mon, 15 May 95 17:11:27 -0700

XYL says Too Many QRP Rigs!

Original NorCal 40 40m QRP rig (second club run), original metal finish, silk-screened front and rear panels, works well: \$75.

A&A Engineering version of K9AY 20m QRP rig with built-in CMOS II Superkeyer, also usable as a keyer for "external rigs": \$125.

For best results, reply to tavan@tss.com.

73,

/Rick N6XI

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon May 15 16:50:47 1995
From: JCoote@aol.com
Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 12:50:47 -0400
Message-Id: <950515125045_119278477@aol.com>
Subject: Hexfet & Power FET finals.. thoughts?

Does anyone have comments on using n-channel HEXFETs such as the common IRF-511 for the final in a 1-5 watt QRP transmitter for the MF/HF bands?

I've built a few 1-watt transmitters for the no-license "LOWFER" or low freq experimenter's band of 160-190 KHz. They seemed to work "down there".

A few of my findings:

The Hexfets take high-impedance input and will operate efficiently "beyond class C" depending on drive waveform. The output is low impedance and works nicely straight into a pi or multi-section filter. At 12-13 volts, my test 160-190 KHz CW transmitters delivered 1.5-2 watts. I drove my LF transmitters with a CD4060 oscillator followed by a 2N2222A-2N2907A buffer

Have you built a Hexfet PA for HF-CW? What did you drive it with? How did you key it?

72, Jay WB6AAM (ARCI 5050) Extra (LOW) Class
WB6AAM@K6VE.#SOCA.CA
jcoote@aol.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon May 15 17:16:33 1995
From: "Tim Stabler" <TSTABLER@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>
Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 11:16:33 CST
Subject: Hotel Power Supplies
Message-Id: <42F9F36731@iunhaw1.iun.indiana.edu>

Reading the Sunday digest and seeing comments about the earlier comments regarding a "hotel power supply", especially those about wall transformers, I have to butt in and ask if everyone saw the article in the last Hambrew about such power supplies. A wall transformer was used for the power and then it was filtered and, perhaps, regulated for use on a rig. As I remember, and I do not have the article here at school, it was built rather large with plenty of room. I would bet one could make it smaller. But, even large, it was VERY portable.

72 & 73 de Tim WB9NLZ

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue May 16 00:00:31 1995
Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 17:00:31 -0700 (PDT)
From: patrick cook <kb0oxd@netcom.com>
Subject: Internet Callbook server.... (fwd)
Message-Id: <Pine.3.89.9505151612.A19468-01000000@netcom21>

Hi Guys:

I just got this message from Matt, N0QXW, and I felt that this was WELL worth forwarding. This message was forwarded to me via mtntcp (Mountain TCP) listserver. Please forgive the redudancies.

Happy Trails 73's for now, my friends!

DE KB00XD
----- Forwarded message -----
Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 17:02:15 -0600 (MDT)
From: Matt Clauson N0QXW <mec@genesis.ezlink.com>
To: Mountain TCP/IP List <mtntcp@rmsd.com>
Subject: Internet Callbook server.... (fwd)

----- Forwarded message -----

Date: Sun, 14 May 1995 22:40:15 +0100
From: Brian A. Lantz <brian@lantz.com>
To: TNOS Topics Mailing List <tnos-topics@lantz.com>
Cc: NOS-BBS Mailing List <nos-bbs@hydra.carleton.ca>,
CONVERSE SYSOP Mailing List <conv-sysops@lantz.com>,
TCP Group Mailing List <tcp-group@ucsd.edu>,
Ham Gateways list <gateways@mpg.phys.hawaii.edu>
Subject: Internet Callbook server....

I have written a new CallBook Server (CBS) that is on line for experimentation and testing at lantz.com. It uses the FCC database, and is updated daily.

Currently it only allows searches by callsign, and does not have information on alien, club, races, or military calls. These will possibly be added in the future. Also, since it is based on the FCC's data, there is no information on non-US callsigns.

After I complete testing and tweeking, I will make the code available to others who have a lot of hard disk to spare ;-)

If you are running any xNOS that has Callbook Client support compiled in, you should be able to use it. Do a 'Callserver lantz.com' (or linux.ko4ks.ampr.org).

Also, an interactive version can be reached by telnetting to lantz.com (or linux.ko4ks.ampr.org) to port 7373.

And finally, it is available via WWW at <http://www.lantz.com/htbin/cbs> or off the home page.

Suggestions and comments are welcome.....

Brian A. Lantz brian@lantz.com

REAL PORTION of Microsoft Windows code:

```
while (memory_available)    {  
    eat_major_portion_of_memory (no_real_reason);  
    if (feel_like_it)  
        make_user_THINK (this_is_an_OS);  
    gates_bank_balance++;  
}
```

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon May 15 02:15:32 1995
From: rarland@epix.net
Date: Sun, 14 May 1995 22:15:32 -0400 (EDT)
Subject: Re: made by MFJ.
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950514220536.18399B-1000000@mango.epix.net>

> Mike Marmor, AA2UJ
> mmarmor@pluto.njcc.com
>
> Mike Marmor, AA2UJ
> mmarmor@pluto.njcc.com
>

On Sat, 13 May 1995, Michael Marmor wrote:

>
> I am not confused. I also don't eat at McDonald's for reasons of quality!
> Unfortunately, I am one of the minority that demands quality and is
> willing to pay for it. I guess I'm not the "typical American" that MFJ
> and McDonalds have targeted as their market niche. MFJ - Caveat Emptor!
>

I must add my comments to this exchange: I have used many of the MFJ products, reviewed some for Worldradio when I wrote the QRP column for 7 years, and have been generally satisfied with their products. HOWEVER, there have been times that I felt that MFJ could have done more engineering before turning the product over to marketing. Likewise, their quality control leaves a bit to be desired at times.

The 9020 that they loaned the QRP ARCI hospitality suite in 1994 at Dayton was not the radio that they marketed later. One disturbing trend that has been relayed to me by several people within the amateur radio equipment manufacturing arena is that MFJ will announce a product, start taking orders to see how the public demand seems, then release the product if demand warrants.

For everyone who likes MFJ products, there are an equal number who subscribe to the idea that MFJ really stands for "mighty fine junk".

I personally have had good luck with their products.

72 rich
K7YHA

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon May 15 14:38:17 1995
Date: Mon, 15 May 95 09:38:17 CDT
From: msdooley@collie.aud.alcatel.com (Michael S. Dooley)
Message-Id: <9505151438.AA22515@collie.aud.alcatel.com>
Subject: Re: made by MFJ.

For my two cents I have A MFJ941D antenna tuner. Worked great before I got into QRP and, with a modification to the bridge circuit (aka replaced it) it works great on QRP now even below 1 watt. I like MFJ products. While I may have to modify some of their stuff to do what I want... actually let me say that I'm more inclined to modify their stuff than something I spent \$500+++ for. I also find I enjoy operating with equipment I built or modified.

Mike KE4PC

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon May 15 19:28:16 1995
Date: Mon, 15 May 95 14:28:16 -0500
From: bfinch@asp.vet.purdue.edu (Robert Finch)
Message-Id: <9505151928.AA02608@asp.vet.purdue.edu>
Subject: manuals

speaking from experience (i repair hi-tech stuff for a living)....a gud manual shud have use,theory of operation,function descriptions, block diagrams, schematics, interface info, and software specific(s)not TOO much to ask... but it can be mind numbing to get a decent one..imho the americans are MUCH better at this when they want to be....the japanese manufacturers seem less able and/or willing to do this....

ttfn....baab, n6cxb
oh...btw...this is in response to a message
hr abt. gud tech manuals and the various replies
(i'm NOT going to print out here even ONE of the previous messages)

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon May 15 22:28:06 1995
Date: Mon, 15 May 95 16:28:06 MDT
From: miker@cc.com (Mike Robinson)
Message-Id: <9505152228.AA23972@cc.com >

Subject: MFJ259

Anyone have an MFJ259 they would like to sell?

```
=====
7.3 de Michael aa0ub          | QRP:
miker@cc.com                 | Norcal #857 | "This thing's a radio?"
=====
```

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Tue May 16 00:57:51 1995
Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 20:57:51 -0400
From: Robert Penneys <penneys@brahms.udel.edu>
Message-Id: <199505160057.UAA28075@brahms.udel.edu>
Subject: N.E.R.D.S. new callsign

The N.E.R.D.S. received a club license today, bearing call sign KB3BIJ.
You can bet I'll put up the \$70 ASAP.

CU on WPX and FD.

Bob

Bob Penneys, WN3K Frankford Radio Club N.E.R.D.S.
Internet: penneys@brahms.udel.edu Work: Ham Radio Outlet, Delaware

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon May 15 14:31:05 1995
Date: Mon, 15 May 95 07:31:05 MST
From: gervaj@master.lds-az.loral.com (Joe Gervais)
Message-Id: <9505151431.AA19564@master.lds-az.loral.com>
Subject: Re: NNIG Mark xx Rigs

Bob (V01DRB/WA6ERB) wrote:

(New England QRP Club properly identified.)
> I noticed at Dayton this year and in some recent postings (see above)
> that the club has been badly mis-represented as the North East QRP
> Club. Say it isn't so that the grade school education in the US has
> come to the point where we don't even know where New England is
> located <...>.

Uh, sure. It's in the northeast, right? :)

Thanks for the "pedigree" info on the NN1G designs, added it to my personal archives. Hope you and Chuck can collaborate and add it to the faq.

Does anyone have any comments on the Small Wonder SWL-30? If, as Bob says, the SWL designs run out of steam at higher freqs, I'd like to hear from anyone who's built one for 30m. I'm hoping to get a 30m kit in a few weeks, and the SWL-30 seems like the leading candidate at the moment.

Thanks!

7.3 de KD6PRD/7,

-Joe
gervaj@master.lds-az.loral.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon May 15 23:16:51 1995
Message-Id: <199505160033.WAA13577@public.compuserc.nf.ca>
Date: Tue, 16 May 1995 00:16:51 +0100
From: rgobrick@public.compuserc.nf.ca (Robert J. Gobrick)
Subject: Re: NN1G Mark xx Rigs

Joe,

The SWL-30 is fine at 30 meters - it is 20 meters and above that I think the design runs out of steam since you don't have the extra stage of IF amplification for gain distribution that you need at that freq and above.

I have a QRP Club of New England 30-40 and it works fine - have been able to work up and down the East Coast and Yugoslavia (NOT in the Northeast... ;-)) with the rig and an MFJ Super HiQ loop antenna off my balcony. So it works.

Good luck with your new SWL-30 - it's a nice rig. Did you order the new prepunched, prepainted and prelabelled case - it's a beauty and will help you finish your project sooner (PS I hate building cases and my kits usually sit on the bench until the case gets made - in my case months - so I was happy to see that Dave NN1G came out with a nice 2X4X4 Ten Tec case - tiny and beautiful.

73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

>
>Bob (V01DRB/WA6ERB) wrote:
>

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>> I noticed at Dayton this year and in some recent postings (see above)
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>freqs, I'd like to hear from anyone who's built one for
>30m. I'm hoping to get a 30m kit in a few weeks, and the
>SWL-30 seems like the leading candidate at the moment.
>
>Thanks!
>
>7.3 de KD6PRD/7,
>
>-Joe
>gervaj@master.lds-az.loral.com
>

Bob Gobrick - VO1DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada
QRPer Galore - ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP

Internet: rgobrick@public.compusult.nf.ca
 bgobrick@terra.nlnet.nf.ca

Compuserve: 70466.1405@compuserve.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Sun May 14 23:59:46 1995
Message-Id: <199505150116.WAA28444@public.compusult.nf.ca>
Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 00:59:46 +0100
From: rgobrick@public.compusult.nf.ca (Robert J. Gobrick)
Subject: Re: Pixie 2 - "Build it" Rig from Dayton

Mike,

I won't try explaining this one but for some reason on my working Pixie 2 I noticed a difference in the type of 9 volt batteries I used. A trusty Radio Shack Alkaline worked just great (9V+ measured) yet at the same time I picked up some plain old carbon zinc 9 volt battery at also a measured 9 volts caused the rig to go into oscillation. Maybe my rig is fussy - it just wants the "best" batteries - it's like it has a mind of it's own..

Tonight I am listening to W1AW on my Pixie 2 with some nice music (intermod) in the background. So far I haven't worked anyone but that is more of the geography - there is no one nearby me here in Newfoundland.

By the way I get 300mw out using the 9 volt battery and metal can 2N2222A's - not bad. I also am using my new MFJ 934 Antenna/Ground Tuner which I suspect cuts out a little bit of the intermod. I also just have a molded choke in my final circuit - after building my Sierra I just didn't feel like winding coils - hi.

Also keep you operation simple - I notice when I plugged in my fancy memory keyer I get hum from it's power source - so I use battery power everything.

Good luck and by the way for those reading the Pixie 2 should be appearing in the next issue of the QRPp - June issue.

73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

>> On the bench I did get my Pixie 2 to transmit into a dummy load and be
>> picked up my my big rig and likewise I was able to receive a signal from my
>> big rig on my Pixie - albeit with the built-in offset since the Pixie does
>> not compensate for a 700 Hz shift or so - by the way I think THIS is the
>> reason why maybe the guys at Dayton didn't hear their rigs working... just a
>> guess on my part.

>

>I didn't find all the chokes I needed for my Pixie 2 at Dayton. When I
>built the rig in the contest me and my contest elmer/partner Bruce Lifter
>tried to wind our own coils. The rig would TX but not RX like most of the
>other rigs. Also there was a terrible audio oscillation in the receiver.
>When I got home from Dayton I got the proper chokes for the rig. The
>audio oscillation is still there, but when you hook it up to the
>big antenna you can still hear some CW through the noise! So
>the RX is working after all.

>

>How do I go about fixing the audio oscillation? Where do I start?
>Does anyone else have this problem with their Pixie 2?

>

>73

>Mike Marmor, AA2UJ

>mmarmor@pluto.njcc.com

>

Bob Gobrick - VO1DRB/WA6ERB/VE2DRB - Newfoundland, Canada
QRPer Galore - ARCI, GQRP, NORCAL, NEQRP, COQRP, MIQRP, NWQRP

Internet: rgobrick@public.compuserve.nf.ca
 bgobrick@terra.nl.net.nf.ca

Compuserve: 70466.1405@compuserve.com

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon May 15 03:26:31 1995
From: Michael Marmor <mmarmor@pluto.njcc.com>
Message-Id: <199505150326.XAA28576@pluto.njcc.com>
Subject: Re: Pixie 2 - "Build it" Rig from Dayton
Date: Sun, 14 May 1995 23:26:31 -0400 (EDT)

>
> Mike,
>
> I won't try explaining this one but for some reason on my working Pixie 2 I
> noticed a difference in the type of 9 volt batteries I used. A trusty Radio
> Shack Alkaline worked just great (9V+ measured) yet at the same time I
> picked up some plain old carbon zinc 9 volt battery at also a measured 9
> volts caused the rig to go into oscillation. Maybe my rig is fussy - it
> just wants the "best" batteries - it's like it has a mind of it's own..

It works, it works, it works!!!!!! Hey - it *WAS* the battery!
I was using a cheap carbon zinc battery and it was going into
oscillation. I tried a decent alkaline and no problems!!

The lm386 has enough oomph to drive a tiny speaker I bought at
Dayton. I have an Altoids tin (Altoids - "the Curiously Strong
Peppermint") the size of a Scret's box that will be a perfect
enclosure for the Pixie 2.

Now - does anyone have ideas how to improve this little circuit?
I'd like to experiment with some mods for it - there *MUST* be a
way to improve this thing. My xtal is one of the 3.686 Mhz
ones but I was receiving a broadcast station, three or four 80 meter
QSOs (who knows how far from 3.686!) and what sounded like
a local CB transmission!

Thanks!

Mike Marmor, AA2UJ
mmarmor@pluto.njcc.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon May 15 14:33:40 1995
Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 09:33:40 -0500 (CDT)
From: "Perry W. Ogletree" <pogletre@mail.coin.missouri.edu>
Subject: Re: Pixie 2 - "Build it" Rig from Dayton
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950515092806.15845A-100000@bigcat>

On Mon, 15 May 1995, Robert J. Gobrick wrote:

> Mike,
>
> I won't try explaining this one but for some reason on my working Pixie 2 I
> noticed a difference in the type of 9 volt batteries I used. A trusty Radio
> Shack Alkaline worked just great (9V+ measured) yet at the same time I
> picked up some plain old carbon zinc 9 volt battery at also a measured 9
> volts caused the rig to go into oscillation. Maybe my rig is fussy - it
> just wants the "best" batteries - it's like it has a mind of it's own..
>
This is an easy one to explain! The internal resistance of Carbon-Zinc
batteries is much higher than Alkaline limiting the max. current. At one
time, I measured the limiting current and as my "leaky" memory serves,
the max. "I" for CZ 9 volt batteries was around 20 ma.! The audio "howl"
was due to lack of voltage regulation from current limiting...

73 de Perry
N0NMC@N0LBA.#CEMO.MO.USA.NOAM (Packet)
pogletre@mail.coin.missouri.edu (Internet)

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon May 15 14:46:41 1995
Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 12:16:41 -0230
Message-Id: <199505151446.MAA03164@public.compuser.nf.ca>
From: rgobrick@public.compuser.nf.ca (Robert J. Gobrick)
Subject: Re: Pixie 2 - "Build it" Rig from Dayton

Thanks Perry,

I knew this qrp-1 list has some first class technical people on board - that
info is something I bet you I'd never find in any ham handbooks - thanks for
making me just a little bit smarter today (it's just all those other brain

cells that I seem to keep losing every day.. ;-)

73/72 Bob V01DRB/WA6ERB

>On Mon, 15 May 1995, Robert J. Gobrick wrote:

>

>> Mike,

>>

>> I won't try expalining this one but for some reason on my working Pixie 2 I
>> noticed a difference in the type of 9 volt batteries I used. A trusty Radio
>> Shack Alkaline worked just great (9V+ measured) yet at the same time I
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>time, I measured the limiting current and as my "leaky" memory serves,
>the max. "I" for CZ 9 volt batteries was around 20 ma.! The audio "howl"
>was due to lack of voltage regulation from current limiting...

>

> 73 de Perry

> N0NMC@N0LBA.#CEMO.MO.USA.NOAM (Packet)

> pogletre@mail.coin.missouri.edu (Internet)

>

>

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon May 15 02:13:47 1995

Date: Sun, 14 May 1995 19:13:47 -0700 (PDT)

From: Monte Stark <ku7y@sage.dri.edu>

Subject: Re: QRP+ Mic

Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.90.950514191023.15035F-100000@nimbus>

On Sat, 13 May 1995, Bob Cutter wrote:

-----Snip-----

> The CB mic was .50 at a swapfest last weekend and the total cost with
> connector was \$3.25.

>

> 72, Bob KI0G

>

>

Oh no, you mean the bean can & string don't work?

Geeeeessh, that SSB sure gets complicated..... :-)

73, Ron, dah, dah (I'm three times slower than Chuck)

.....KU7Y.....ARCI #8829.....Monte "Ron" Stark.....
.....ku7y@sage.dri.edu.....Sun Valley, Nevada....
.....ARRL.....NorCal #330.....NRA LIFE.....

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon May 15 02:43:14 1995
From: "Dennis E. Jacobson" <n6ng@crl.com>
Message-Id: <199505150243.AA01872@crl4.crl.com>
Subject: Re: SSB QRP
Date: Sun, 14 May 1995 19:43:14 -0700 (PDT)

etcom.com

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon May 15 18:20:00 1995
Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 14:20:00 -0400
From: "todd (t.w.) nichols" <tnichols@bnr.ca>
Message-Id: <"18330 Mon May 15 14:21:35 1995"@bnr.ca>
Subject: re:surface mount? Naw

In message "surface mount? Naw", you write:

>Thinking of surface mount components for your projects?
>For Mike's ultra small teeny weeny rigs -- OK you bet!
>
>For regular Norcal, NE40-40 type radios -- no go.
>Why use tiny resistors, transistors and capacitors when the
>other components like variable caps, pots, jacks and toroids
>are so much larger?
> If you're into D.C. to daylight frequency coverage
>with fancy DDS oscillators and much complicated no-tuning
>circuitry, it may make sense to use surface mount. If you're
>into production that is. How many people in this boat?
> Or it may make sense for UHF, microwave stuff. How
>many in this boat?

Definitely surface-mount is great for microwave stuff. I'm
messing around with some of this. Big parts don't work well
at X-band.

>
> For homebrewers handcrafting uncomplicated rigs
> in the HF band, it just doesn't make sense.
> Glen Leinweber VE3DNL leinwebe@mcmaster.ca

I do agree with Glen's assessment of surface mount for garden-variety HF rigs. However, sometimes non-garden variety stuff is fun (and just different), and sometimes things change. If something like IF cans are too big for a surface-mount design -- leave 'em out of the design! The following parts are available now:

- surface-mountable inductors (very tiny)
- surface-mountable toroidal RF transformers (e.g., Mini-Circuits)
- surface-mountable crystals
- "radio-on-a-chip" parts from, for example, Motorola
- SMA connectors (and even smaller connectors! Surface mount!)
- very small pots (with shafts)
- of course, resistors, capacitors, diodes, transistors, etc. ...

Heck, parts are available that let one make a modem or data acquisition system inside a Type II PCMCIA card! Can you imagine an HF rig inside your HP (or other) palmtop computer? Hmmm...

Sounds like fun!

Todd

Todd Nichols Bell Northern Research, Ottawa, Ontario (613) 765-3560
tnichols@bnr.ca KB0HQU/VE3 BNR didn't say it; I did
"Ensign, set a new course. There's coffee in that nebula!" - Capt. Janeway

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon May 15 13:20:41 1995
Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 06:20:41 -0700 (PDT)
From: Electronic Design Magazine <dmalinak@CLASS.ORG>
Subject: The thrill of it all...
Message-Id: <Pine.SUN.3.91.950515061520.13542A-100000@class.class.org>

To all: Hey, this is probably old hat to just about all of you, but I just wanted to share this. Yesterday (Sunday) afternoon and the previous evening, 20 meters was enjoying unusually good conditions. At about 2300Z Sunday, I worked my first two W6 stations ever, back to back. Both were at least S6 or so. Then, a little while later, I had one of those thrills that you (OK, make that "I") can only get from Amateur Radio. Tuned to

14.060 and called CQ QRP once, twice, and then heard my call coming back...from Cam HP1AC in Panama! Like I said, old hat to you all, but to me, QRP-to-QRP DX is a very big deal!

This is the kind of stuff that just keeps me coming back to those little radios.

72/73, David N2SMH
Glen Rock, NJ

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon May 15 05:32:21 1995
Message-Id: <199505150534.WAA28621@mail.netcom.com>
Subject: Re: Tree time & other vagaries of the mind
Date: Sun, 14 May 95 22:32:21 PDT
From: "Stan Goldstein, N6ULU" <stan@cruzio.com>

NYOUNG@nova.wright.edu writes:

>
> Question number dos-o: What's the deal on arrows versus
> sling shots for slinging fishing line up into trees?
> I ain't no archer so I'm gonna be careful with that one.
> But the sling shot might just work: a lead weight on the
> end of a line on a reel shot into the air (and I can only
> hope through the tree limbs). Anyone got experiental
> gossip what they can lend me. I'll give the words back
> if you want. (I always remember [I think it was an
> Ernie Kovacs bit] the crowd throwing ears at Marc Antony.
> Nils
> WB8IJN &c

1. You can get an arrow much higher than a slingshot.
(The Pines are over 100 feet here.)
2. Used bows are fairly easy to find at fleece markets and garage sales and usually cheap too. (\$5-10 bux .)
3. Your teenager can't sneak the bow out of the house to shoot birds.
4. Dangling arrows that get caught in the trees lend a festive air to your neighborhood and if the shafts are metal, create mysterious light reflections when the sun hits em just right.
5. When your neighbors see you shooting arrows into the air in the direction of their (or another neighbors') house, they will

now be confirmed your crazy, and now know your armed and crazy.
Usually this causes them to leave you alone unless the arrow hits
a loved one or pet.
This has the additional benefit of causing them to place rfi
concerns into a very low priority status.

I really enjoy using my new flea market bow, and hope you do too.

--

72.25 (I still use high power when I need it)
Stan Goldstein , N6ULU

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon May 15 15:53:18 1995
Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 08:53:18 -0700
Message-Id: <199505151553.IAA24690@mailhost.primenet.com>
From: aa7qy@PrimeNet.Com (Roger Hightower)
Subject: Re: Tree time & other vagaries of the mind

>Question number dos-o: What's the deal on arrows versus
>sling shots for slinging fishing line up into trees?

Nils, I have tried the bow and arrow route with some success (except when
the line breaks and had no idea where the darned thing went) and the
slingshot (not accurate enough). I finally settled on my trusty Lunkerstick
fishing rod...it flings a one oz. weight with ease, where I aim it, and
gets over 100' high with no problem. Paint the weight a bright color (
a new thought for me), and let it free-spool down to near the ground.
The plus is that I can justify taking the old fishing rod along on a ham
trip....might even catch dinner, :-).

A pack of 1 oz sinkers is a darned sight cheaper than one arrow, and there
is less potential for damage to anyone on the far side of the target.

73, de Roger.

aa7qy@primenet.com rhigh@aztec.asu.edu Ham Radio: AA7QY@KC7Y.AZ.USA.NA

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon May 15 16:29:29 1995
From: JEVERHART@cayman.vf.mmc.com
Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 12:29:29 -0400 (EDT)
Message-Id: <950515122929.2028c293@carib.vf.mmc.com>
Subject: RE: Tree time & other vagaries of the mind

Nils, wow I've missed your periodic dose of insanity :-). This is like reading Catch-22 all over again. :-) :-).

You wrote, in part:

> Question number dos-o: What's the deal on arrows versus
> sling shots for slinging fishing line up into trees?
> I ain't no archer so I'm gonna be careful with that one.
> But the sling shot might just work: a lead weight on the
> end of a line on a reel shot into the air (and I can only
> hope through the tree limbs). Anyone got experiential
> gossip what they can lend me. I'll give the words back
> if you want. (I always remember [I think it was an
> Ernie Kovacs bit] the crowd throwing ears at Marc Antony.
> Howler monkeys we are here...)

Brings to mind "outrageous slings and arrows".... One of the funnier sights at a recent Field Day was one of the guys using a slingshot to ATTEMPT to launch an antenna support line into a tree. He had one of the fancy whizbangs with a fishing reel attached to it. Early attempts were unsuccessful because the fishing line broke as the projectile attempted to unreel it. Then came several attempts with dome line unreeled and laying coiled on the ground. The net results of this were a.) Several nasty string burns, b. Onlookers tripped by invisible line coiled on the ground, and c.) Lots of knotted, unusable fishing line. Wish I'd had a Camcorder to preserve that.

The, one of the guys remembered that he had some archery gear in his car (parked a mile away. When the recon team returned with the the archery bag, we discovered that there was a bow but no arrows. (He's a Boy Scout leader.) We ended up throwing a pair of pliers over a tree with our line attached.....

On other more successful occasions, the bow and arrow method proved more accurate and reached higher than the slingshot.

BTW, I remember a tidbit from QST some years back saying that slingshots were illegal in Australia, with a special exemption for hams. Try explaining that to your local constable! Sounds like New Jersey. I think peashooters are probably classified as dangerous weapons here.

72/73,

Joere E. N2CX

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon May 15 19:04:50 1995

Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 09:04:50 -1000
Message-Id: <199505151904.JAA20129@mango.aloha.com>
From: beltrani@aloha.com (Paul Beltrani)
Subject: Re: Tree time & other vagaries of the mind

>NYOUNG@nova.wright.edu writes:
>> Question number dos-o: What's the deal on arrows versus
>> sling shots for slinging fishing line up into trees?

I like to take my qrp rigs camping. Dragging a bow along just to put up an antenna is not worth the effort and weight. On the other hand: Arrows are easier to use, are easier to see as they go over the tree and do not tend to get hung up as often dropping through branches.

My suggestion is to combine the best of both. Use an arrow in your sling shot. You may be surprised how well it works.

- Paul Beltrani

beltrani@aloha.com
ah6nu@nh6yw.hi.usa.oc Amateur Radio Packet

From owner-qrp-l@netcom.com Mon May 15 21:47:53 1995
Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 17:47:53 -0400 (EDT)
From: "Harold J. Kohl" <kohl@romulus.ncsc.mil>
Subject: Re: Tree time & other vagaries of the mind
Message-Id: <Pine.D-G.3.91.950515174012.4409B-1000000@romulus.ncsc.mil>

I use a fishing rod with 4 to 6 pound test line, a 2 oz barrel shaped sinker with a hole in the middle. The two oz sinker works well because it is heavy enough to get up about 100 to 125 feet and it will pull the line through the leaves to the ground. Of course the best time is when there is no leaves. I also like the sinker because you can pull it back up through the limbs (REAL SLOWLY SO IT DOES NOT WRAP AROUND A BRANCH, PATIENCE) and let it drop where you want it. I forgot to say I do launch the sinker with a slingshot (wrist rocket).

One ham I know put this two oz sinker on the tip of his arrow and used it to cross a large span of tree tops. It worked well but does not retrieve back through the branches to well.

Ensure the fishing line is not tangled. The first time you pull a twisted string through the branches it will twist the fishing line. This makes it prone to kinking on the next shot. This can be corrected by removing the weight and any swivel if used. Take the line out about 100

to 150 feet and lay it in the grass. Apply a light tension on the fishing line and reel it in. The grass will help take out the kinks as does the water for those that learned this trick after trowling.

I hope this helps. 73 John K04A.

On Sun, 14 May 1995, Stan Goldstein, N6ULU wrote:

> NYOUNG@nova.wright.edu writes:

> >

> > Question number dos-o: What's the deal on arrows versus

> > sling shots for slinging fishing line up into trees?

> > I ain't no archer so I'm gonna be careful with that one.

> > But the sling shot might just work: a lead weight on the

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> > gossip what they can lend me. I'll give the words back

> > if you want. (I always remember [I think it was an

> > Ernie Kovacs bit] the crowd throwing ears at Marc Antony.

> > Nils

> > WB8IJN &c

>

>

> 1. You can get an arrow much higher than a slingshot.

> (The Pines are over 100 feet here.)

>

> 2. Used bows are fairly easy to find at flea markets and

> garage sales and usually cheap too. (\$5-10 max .)

>

> 3. Your teenager can't sneak the bow out of the house to

> shoot birds.

>

> 4. Dangling arrows that get caught in the trees lend a festive air

> to your neighborhood and if the shafts are metal, create

> mysterious light reflections when the sun hits em just right.

>

> 5. When your neighbors see you shooting arrows into the air in the

> direction of their (or another neighbors') house, they will

> now be confirmed your crazy, and now know your armed and crazy.

> Usually this causes them to leave you alone unless the arrow hits

> a loved one or pet.

> This has the additional benefit of causing them to place rfi

> concerns into a very low priority status.

>

> I really enjoy using my new flea market bow, and hope you do too.

>

>

> --
> 72.25 (I still use high power when I need it)
> Stan Goldstein , N6ULU
>

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon May 15 14:34:25 1995
Message-Id: <MAILQUEUE-101.950515103425.480@rcadmin.nov.add.bnl.gov>
From: "Nick Franco - KF2PH" <NICKF@rcadmin.nov.add.bnl.gov>
Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 10:34:25 EDT
Subject: Vectronics vs. Tucker

Just my \$.02 worth on this tuner thread.

We purchased a Vectronics tuner a few years back for the club shack here and the Lab. After a couple of years, we took a lightning hit in the area and blew the tuner (cheap stuff not a direct hit). We tried to contact Vectronics per the documentation and low and behold they refered us to Tucker who now produced and maintains that tuner line. Since then I've seen Vectronics equipment in mags again.

Anyway, at least in my case, Vectronics and Tucker tuners were one and the same item. BTW: I had to contact them because the docs showed a schematic but did not have any values on the components.

72/73

Nick

Nick Franco - RHIC Computer/Network Support
Building 1005 2nd Floor Rm. 201
UPTON, N.Y. 11973-5000 U.S.A.
tel:(516)282-5467 fax:(516)282-3674

Ham Call: KF2PH QRP-NE # 349

From owner-qrp-1@netcom.com Mon May 15 13:02:20 1995
From: Jack Ponton <jwp@chemeng.ed.ac.uk>
Date: Mon, 15 May 1995 14:02:20 +0100
Message-Id: <199505151302.0AA26979@aith.chemeng.ed.ac.uk>
Subject: WW2 RX to qrp Tcvt

Hello there again to everyone on the qrp list!

I have just re-subscribed to the group. The volume of mail was getting too great for me to read regularly, so I unsubscribed a month ago.

I need advice and information on my current project which is to restore a WW2 US receiver and build a qrp TX into it.

The radio is a COL-46159 which was 'part of the TCS-20 radio equipment'. It was used by the US Navy. Mine is dated February 1945.

1. First requirement is a circuit diagram! Any assistance in locating this would be gratefully received. All photocopying and mailing costs cheerfully refunded or repaid in kind, of course.

2. I believe there is a group interested in old radio equipment, but I haven't been able to find it on the net. Information would be appreciated.

3. The idea is to use the RX oscillator as a TX VFO. Since the coils appear to be ceramic formers and sealed, and the tuning capacitor is the kind which I've seen in kW ATUs, I'm hoping it will be stable enough for the low bands. The whole radio is built like, as well as for, a battleship. The idea was suggested a few years ago in RSGB's Radcom, and I wonder if anyone else has tried it.

4. Any general tips on putting 50 year old radios which have been sitting in a (nice clean dry) loft for 30+ years back into operation would also be much appreciated.

Thanks and 72/3,

Jack, gm0rwu